

Message Text

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INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 EUR-25 AF-10 AID-20 SPM-01 HEW-08 TRSE-00

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TO SECSTATE WSAHDC 7447

INFO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1315

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PN JM

SUBJ: AMB SCALI' S MEETING WITH JAMAICAN PERMREP

SUMMARY. JAMAICAN PERMREP MILLS' INITIAL COURTESY CALL ON AMB SCALI DEALTH MAINLY WITH AFTERMATH OF SC MEETING IN PANAMA AND JAMAICA' S INTERNATIONAL ROLE. AMB SCALI NOTED MIN THOMPSON' S CONSTRUCTIVE STATEMENT IN PANAMA AND ACKNOWLEDGED IMPORTANCE OF JAMAICAN VIEWS ON SUCH ISSUES. END SUMMARY.

1. JAMAICAN PERM REP DONALD MILLS PAID INITIAL COURTESY CALL ON AMB. SCALI APRIL 10 PRIMARILY TO INQUIRE ABOUT USG REACTION TO OUTCOME OF SC MEETING IN PANAMA. HE SAID THAT JAMAICANS HAVE SPECIAL HISTORICAL TIES TO CANAL ZONE SINCE LARGE NUMBERS OF JAMAICAN WORKERS HELPED TO CONSTRUCT CANAL AND NOTED THAT MINISTER OF STATE DUDLEY THOMPSON WAS BORN IN COLON, A CITY POPULTAED ALMOST COMPLETELY BY DESCENDANTS OF JAMAICAN IMMIGRANTS.

2. AMB. SCALI WELCOMED JAMAICAN INTEREST IN CANAL ISSUE , SAID JAMAICA CAN PLAY CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE ON SUCH MATTER AND TERMED DUDLEY THOMPSON' S SPEECH TO SC MEETING A CONSTRUCTIVE
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ONE. WITH REGARD TO MEETING ITSELF, US HAD GENUINELY SOUGHT COMPROMISE, BUT PANAMANIAN MANEUVERED TO SOLICIT US

VETO. THUS MEETING REPRESENTED SETBACK IN US- PANAMA RELATIONS FOR IT HARDENED US PUBLIC OPINION AND IRRITATED INFLUENTIAL MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. USG OF COURSE AGREES TO REVISION OF TREATY AND DESIRES A SETTLEMENT WHICH WOULD PUT US- PANAMANIAN RELATIONSHIP ON MODERN FOOTING AND WOULD TAKE INTERESTS OF BOTH PARTIES INTO ACCOUNT. AMB. MILLS SAID THAT JUST BEFORE LEAVING FOR PANAMA HE HAD SEEN AND BEEN FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY USG AIDE MEMOIRE OUTLINING EXTENT OF CONCESSIONS US PREPARED TO OFFER PANAMA.

3. TURNING TO FORTHCOMING UNGA, AMB. SCALI SAID THAT PANAMANIAN ATTEMPT TO PLACE CANAL ISSUE ON UNGA WOULD BE VERY COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE SINCE HE WOULD BE " TWICE AS TOUGH" AS HE WAS IN PANAMA. AMB. MILLS APPEARED TO AGREE, NOTING THAT ISSUE SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM EMOTIONAL ATMOSPHERE SO THAT BOTH SIDES COULD MOVE AHEAD IN NEGOTIATIONS.

4. IN DISCUSSING JAMAICA' S ROLE ON INTERNATIONAL SCENE, AMB. MILLS SAID HIS " SMALL COUNTRY" HOPED TO PLAY " MARGINAL BALANCING ROLE" WITH RESPECT TO THREE DISTINCT GROUPS: LAS, US- UK- CANADA AND AFRICANS. AMB. SCALI EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER EMERGENCE OF MONOLITHIC LOC OF HAVE NOT NATIONS WHO PLACE BLAME FOR THEIR PROBLEMS ON US. AMB. MILLS SAID THAT EUROPE' S APPEARANCE AS POWERFUL NEW FORCE AND LAS RECENT WILLINGNESS TO RECOGNIZE THAT DIVERSE POLITICAL SYSTEMS CAN HAVE COMMON INTERESTS ARE NOT NECESSARILY DANGEROUS DEVELOPMENTS BUT REPRESENT CHALLENGES.

5. AMB. SCALI MENTIONED SECRETARY ROGERS' COMMENTS ON POPULATION CONTROL TO OASGA AS EXAMPLE US CONCERNS WITH REAL PROBLEMS FACING LA AND AMB. MILLS, CITING HIS LONG INVOLVEMENT WITH POPULATION PROBLEMS, AGREED THAT JAMAICA HAD NOT MOVED AS RAPIDLY AS SHE MIGHT HAVE IN THIS TOP PRIORITY FIELD.
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